

*Amendments to the Claims*

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A method of selecting a target polynucleotide, comprising:

(a) introducing into a population of mammalian host cells a library of insert polynucleotides; wherein at least one of said insert polynucleotides comprises the target polynucleotide; wherein said library is constructed in a poxvirus vector, ~~a adenovirus vector or a herpesvirus vector~~ and wherein expression of said target polynucleotide directly or indirectly promotes host cell death;

(b) culturing said host cells under conditions such that said insert polynucleotides are expressed; and

(c) collecting insert polynucleotides from those host cells which undergo cell death; wherein said cell death is not the result of a cytotoxic T lymphocyte-induced lytic event.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

(d) introducing said collected polynucleotides into a population of host cells, wherein expression of said target polynucleotide directly or indirectly promotes host cell death;

(e) culturing said host cells under conditions such that said insert polynucleotides are expressed; and

(f) collecting insert polynucleotides from those host cells which undergo cell death.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising repeating steps (d)-(f) one or more times, thereby enriching for said target polynucleotide.

4. (Original) The method claim 3, further comprising purifying said collected polynucleotides.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said cell death is the result of a cellular effect selected from the group consisting of cell lysis, expression of a suicide gene product, apoptosis, loss of viability, loss of membrane integrity, loss of structural stability, cell disruption, disruption of cytoskeletal elements, inability to maintain membrane potential, arrest of cell cycle, inability to generate energy, growth arrest, cytotoxic effects, cytostatic effects, genotoxic effects, and growth suppressive effects.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said population of host cells is selected from the group consisting of: tumor cells, metastatic tumor cells, primary cells, transformed primary cells, immortalized primary cells, dividing cells, non dividing cells, terminally differentiated cells, pluripotent stem cells, committed progenitor cells, uncommitted stem cells, progenitor cells, muscle cells, epithelial cells, nervous system cells, circulatory system cells, respiratory system cells, endocrine cells, endocrine-associated cells, skeletal system cells, connective tissue cells, musculoskeletal cells, chondrocytes, osteoblasts, osteoclasts, myocytes, fully differentiated blood cells, fully differentiated epidermal cells, neurons, glial cells, kidney cells, liver cells, muscle cell progenitors, epithelial cell progenitors, nervous system cell progenitors, circulatory system cell progenitors, respiratory system cell progenitors, endocrine cell progenitors, endocrine associated cell progenitors, skeletal system cell progenitors, connective tissue

cell progenitors, musculoskeletal cell progenitors, chondrocyte progenitors, osteoblast progenitors, osteoclast progenitors, myocyte progenitors, blood cell progenitors, epidermal cell progenitors, neuron progenitors, glial cell progenitors, kidney cell progenitors, liver cell progenitors and any combination thereof.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said host cells are adherent to a solid support.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said solid support is selected from the group consisting of: tissue culture plastic, glass, polystyrene, polypropylene, polyethylene, dextran, nylon, amylases, natural and modified celluloses, polyacrylamides, gabbros, magnetite, soluble material, partially soluble material, insoluble material, magnetic material, and nonmagnetic material.

9. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said solid support has a structure selected from the group consisting of: spherical, bead-like, bead, cylindrical, test tube-like, tube-like, tube, rod-like, rod, flat, sheet-like, sheet, test strip, strip-like, strip, bead, microbead, well, plate, tissue culture plate, petri plate, microplate, microtiter plate, flask, stick, vial, and paddle.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said library of insert polynucleotides is selected from the group consisting of: a cDNA library, a genomic library, a combinatorial polynucleotide library, a library of natural polynucleotides, a library of artificial polynucleotides, a library of polynucleotides endogenous to said host cells, a library of polynucleotides exogenous to said host cells, an antisense library, and any combination thereof.

11-21. (Cancelled).

22. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein said cell death is the result of apoptosis.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein apoptosis is induced through expression of a apoptosis-related gene product which directly promotes apoptosis.

24. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein apoptosis is induced through expression of an apoptosis related gene product which indirectly promotes apoptosis.

25. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein said apoptosis related gene product comprises a death domain containing receptor expressed on the surface of said host cells, and wherein said host cells are contacted with a ligand for said death domain containing receptor.

26. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein said host cells are adherent to a solid support.

27. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein those cells which have undergone apoptosis are released from said support.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein said released host cells, or contents thereof, are collected by removing the liquid medium in which said host cells are cultured.

29. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein those host cells which have undergone apoptosis are fully or partially lysed, thereby releasing their cytoplasmic contents into the liquid medium in which said host cells are cultured.

30. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein said released host cell contents are collected by removing the liquid medium in which said host cells are cultured.

31-42. (Cancelled).

43. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein said cell death is the result of expression of a suicide gene product.

44. (Original) The method of claim 43, wherein said suicide gene product is selected from the group consisting of a diphtheria toxin A chain polypeptide, a Pseudomonas exotoxin A chain polypeptide, a ricin A chain polypeptide, an abrin A chain polypeptide, a modeccin A chain polypeptide, and an alpha-sarcin polypeptide.

45. (Original) The method of claim 43, wherein said host cells are progenitor cells comprising a suicide gene operably associated with a tissue-restricted promoter; wherein expression of said target polynucleotide directly or indirectly induces transcription of said tissue restricted-promoter, resulting in expression of said suicide gene; and wherein expression of said suicide gene promotes death of those progenitor cells comprising said target polynucleotide.

46. (Original) The method of claim 45, wherein said host cell is a RAW cell, and wherein said suicide gene is operably associated with the TRAP promoter.

47. (Original) The method of claim 46, wherein said target polynucleotide directly or indirectly regulates osteoclast differentiation.

48. (Original) The method of claim 46, wherein said suicide gene encodes the Diphtheria toxin A subunit.

49. (Original) The method of claim 45, wherein said tissue-restricted promoter is identified by gene expression profiling of said host cells under different physical conditions in microarrays of ordered cDNA libraries.

50. (Original) The method of claim 49, wherein said expression profiling compares gene expression under different physical conditions in host cells infected with

a eukaryotic virus expression vector, wherein said eukaryotic virus expression vector is the vector used to construct said library of polynucleotides.

51. (Original) The method of claim 43, wherein said host cells are non-dividing cells comprising a suicide gene operably associated with a proliferation-specific promoter; wherein expression of said target polynucleotide directly or indirectly induces transcription of said proliferation-specific promoter, resulting in expression of said suicide gene; and wherein expression of said suicide gene promotes death of those non-dividing host cells comprising said target polynucleotide.

52. (Original) The method of claim 51, wherein said proliferation-specific promoter is identified by gene expression profiling of said host cells under different physical conditions in microarrays of ordered cDNA libraries.

53. (Original) The method of claim 52, wherein said expression profiling compares gene expression under different physical conditions in host cells infected with a eukaryotic virus expression vector, wherein said eukaryotic virus expression vector is the vector used to construct said library of polynucleotides.

54. (Original) The method of claim 43, wherein said host cells are adherent to a solid support.

55. (Original) The method of claim 54, wherein those host cells expressing said suicide gene product are released from said support.

56. (Original) The method of claim 55, wherein said released host cells, or contents thereof, are collected by removing the liquid medium in which said host cells are cultured.

57. (Original) The method of claim 54, wherein those host cells expressing said suicide gene product are fully or partially lysed, thereby releasing their cytoplasmic contents into the liquid medium in which said host cells are cultured.

58. (Original) The method of claim 57, wherein said released host cell contents are collected by removing the liquid medium in which said host cells are cultured.

59. (Original) The method claim 5, wherein cell death occurs within a period selected from the group consisting of: 48 hours after expression of said insert polynucleotide, 24 hours after expression of said insert polynucleotide, and 12 hours after expression of said insert polynucleotide.

60. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said library of polynucleotides is constructed in a poxvirus vector.

61. (Original) The method of claim 60, wherein said host cells are infected with said library at an MOI selected from the group consisting of: from about 1 to about 10, about 1 to about 5, and about 1.

62-64. (Cancelled).

65. (Previously presented) The method of claim 60, wherein said poxvirus vector is attenuated.

66. (Previously presented) The method of claim 60, wherein said poxvirus vector is capable of producing infectious viral particles in mammalian cells.

67. (Original) The method of claim 65, wherein said attenuation is by genetic mutation.

68. (Original) The method of claim 65, wherein said attenuation is by reversible inhibition of virus replication.

69-72. (Cancelled).

73. (Previously presented) The method of claim 60, wherein said poxvirus vector is selected from the group consisting of an orthopoxvirus vector, an avipoxvirus vector, a capripoxvirus vector, a leporipoxvirus vector, and a suipoxvirus vector.

74. (Previously presented) The method of claim 60, wherein said poxvirus vector is selected from the group consisting of a vaccinia virus vector and a raccoon poxvirus vector.

75. (Previously presented) The method of claim 74, wherein said poxvirus vector is a vaccinia virus vector.

76. (Original) The method of claim 74, wherein said host cells are permissive for the production of infectious viral particles of said virus.

77. (Original) The method of claim 75, wherein said vaccinia virus is attenuated.

78. (Original) The method of claim 77, wherein said attenuation is by genetic mutation.

79. (Original) The method of claim 77, wherein said attenuation is by reversible inhibition of virus replication.

80. (Original) The method of claim 77, wherein said vaccinia virus vector is derived from strain MVA.

81. (Original) The method of claim 77, wherein said vaccinia virus vector is derived from strain D4R.

82. (Original) The method of claim 72, wherein said insert polynucleotide is in operably associated with a transcriptional control sequence.



83. (Original) The method of claim 82, wherein said transcriptional control sequence functions in the cytoplasm of a poxvirus-infected cell.

84. (Original) The method of claim 82, wherein said transcriptional control sequence comprises a promoter.

85. (Original) The method of claim 84, wherein said promoter is constitutive.

86. (Original) The method of claim 85, wherein said promoter is a vaccinia virus p7.5 promoter.

87. (Original) The method of claim 85, wherein said promoter is a synthetic early/late promoter.

88. (Original) The method of claim 82, wherein said transcriptional control sequence comprises a transcriptional termination region.

89-137. (Cancelled).

138. (Previously presented) The method of claim 77, wherein said vaccinia virus vector is derived from strain WR.